

Message Text

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ACTION OES-09

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 EPA-01 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00
SOE-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 INR-10 IO-13 L-03
NSF-01 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-05 ICA-11 SS-15 SP-02
DOE-15 INT-05 /122 W
-----041929 111024Z /12
P 110949Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0315

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FOR OES/ENP/EN

DEPT. PASS TO EPA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SENV, JA
SUBJECT: (1) US-JAPAN JOINT PLANNING AND COORDINATION
MEETING; (2) EPA STEEL PLANT VISIT

REF: (A) STATE 200917; (B) STATE 199877

1. SINCE SUBJECTS OF REFTELS A AND B ARE RELATED TO SOME
EXTENT, WE ARE TAKING LIBERTY OF RESPONDING TO BOTH IN ONE
MESSAGE.

2. WE DELIVERED REVISED AGENDA FOR THIRD U.S.-JAPAN
MEETING TO YONEDA OF FOREIGN MINISTRY ON AUG. 10. HE
COMPARED IT WITH PREVIOUS AGENDA RECEIVED FROM GOJ WASH.
EMBASSY AND EXPRESSED SURPRISE THAT SIGNIFICANT CHANGES
HAS BEEN MADE AND THAT HIS EMBASSY HAD NOT BEEN USED AS
CHANNEL. WE ANSWERED THAT AGENDA WAS STILL IN DRAFT AND
SUBJECT TO CHANGE BY EITHER SIDE, AND THAT USG RESERVED
RIGHT TO USE ITS EMBASSY FOR COMMUNICATIONS TO GOJ JUST
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AS LATTER DID. YONEDA AGREED.

3. CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION ENSUED ON AGENDA ITSELF AND
ON "HEAD OF DELEGATION" ISSUE. YONEDA CLAIMED THAT DESIRE
TO HAVE MESSRS. COSTLE OR WARREN ACT AS HEAD OF DELEGATION
WAS NOT BASED ON SEEKING EQUAL PROTOCOL LEVEL WITH DIRGEN
YAMADA BUT ON CARRYING OUT PROVISION OF U.S.-JAPAN AGREE-

MENT WHICH SAYS THAT MEETINGS WILL BE CHAIRED AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL AS APPROPRIATE. WE POINTED OUT THAT TECHNICALLY NONE OF THE PRINCIPALS FROM EITHER SIDE WERE MINISTERS (I.E., CABINET OFFICERS) AND THEREFORE THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE FLEXIBILITY IN DESIGNATING HEADS OF DELEGATION. (IT IS TRUE THAT YAMADA HAS ALTERNATE TITLE OF MINISTER OF STATE, MAKING HIM EQUIVALENT TO A MINISTER IN PROTOCOL RANK.) YONEDA ASKED IF AGENDA ITEM (E) OF 9/11 AFTERNOON SESSION ("MANAGEMENT OF AGREEMENT") WAS PUT ON AGENDA FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING THIS MATTER; EMBOFF REPLIED THAT HE THOUGHT IT WAS FOR MORE GENERAL PURPOSES BUT THAT IF GOJ WISHED TO RAISE SUBJECT AT THAT TIME, HE WAS SURE U.S. SIDE WOULD BE HAPPY TO DISCUSS. OTHERWISE, YONEDA APPEARED WILLING TO LET THE MATTER DROP, FOR THE TIME BEING AT LEAST. IT WAS EXPLAINED TO HIM THAT MR. COSTLE WOULD MEET WITH YAMADA ON 9/13 AND THAT OTHER HIGH-LEVEL APPOINTMENTS AT STATE WOULD ALSO BE ARRANGED.

4. STRESSING THAT HE NEEDED TO ASK QUESTIONS SO THAT HE COULD EXPLAIN AGENDA TO MOFA AND OTHER AGENCIES, YONEDA ASKED WHAT WAS PURPOSE OF AGENDA ITEM IN 9/11 AFTERNOON SESSION CALLED "FUTURE ACTIVITY." WE REPLIED THAT ALTHOUGH WE HAD NO SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS IN THIS REGARD, WE ASSUMED THAT IT WAS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE TIME TO DISCUSS WHETHER NEW PANELS SHOULD BE ADDED, OLD ONES ELIMINATED OR MODIFIED, ETC., AND THAT PROPOSALS FOR NEW LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OR CHANGED FUTURE ACTIVITIES COULD BE RAISED BY EITHER SIDE. SINCE WE WERE UNCERTAIN OF OUR GROUND HERE, WE SUGGESTED THAT YONEDA RAISE THIS POINT IN THE MOFA FORMAL RESPONSE TO AGENDA.

5. HE THEN ASKED WHY U.S. SIDE FELT IT NECESSARY TO SPEND SO MUCH TIME DISCUSSING TOXIC SUBSTANCES (AM SESSION ON 9/12), CONSIDERING THAT THIS HAD BEEN SUBJECT OF EXTENSIVE DEBATE AT LAST MEETING. WE POINTED OUT THAT ISSUE HAD NOT GONE AWAY AND IN FACT HAD BECOME MAJOR SUBJECT FOR INTERNATIONAL DISCOURSE, WITH JAPAN HEAVILY INVOLVED IN OECD, FOR EXAMPLE. HE ACCEDED.

6. AGENDA ITEM ON IRON AND STEEL CONTROLS AND PRACTICES NECESSITATED LENGTHY DIALOGUE. YONEDA WAS NOT FAMILIAR WITH ISSUE AND WE HAD TO GO BACK TO SQUARE ONE TO EXPLAIN WHY IT HAD APPEARED ON AGENDA IN PLACE OF PREVIOUS BROAD SUBJECTS SUCH AS ENERGY/ECONOMY. HE GAVE ALL INDICATIONS THAT THIS WAS A NON-STARTER FROM MOFA POINT OF VIEW, AND REVEALED THAT GOJ HAD ALREADY DECIDED TO REJECT U.S. PROPOSAL FOR NEW PANEL ON COKE-OVEN EMISSION CONTROL TECHNOLOGY ON GROUND THAT INFORMATION WAS COMPLETELY IN

HANDS OF PRIVATE INDUSTRY AND WAS PROPRIETARY IN NATURE.
HE ALSO MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE DID NOT THINK THAT MOFA
WOULD BE WILLING TO TACKLE MITI AND THE STEEL INDUSTRY
TO PERSUADE THEM TO OPEN UP JAPANESE STEEL MILLS TO EPA
INVESTIGATORS, CONSIDERING THE EXTRA-
ORDINARILY SENSITIVE CONDITIONS THAT PREVAIL AT THIS TIME
BETWEEN U.S. AND JAPAN ON STEEL TRADE. HE SAID THAT

PERSONALLY HE COULD NOT UNDERSTAND WHY STEEL INDUSTRY
WOULD BE WORRIED OVER EPA'S DESIRE TO SEE JAPANESE COKE-
OVEN CONTROL TECHNOLOGY INTRODUCED INTO U.S. BY SALE OF

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ACTION OES-09

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 EPA-01 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00
SOE-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 INR-10 IO-13 L-03
NSF-01 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-05 ICA-11 SS-15 SP-02
DOE-15 INT-05 /122 W
-----042054 111023Z /12

P 110949Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0316

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FOR OES/ENP/EN

DEPT. PASS TO EPA

TECHNOLOGY, AND HE COULD FIND NO HARM IN EPA ENGINEERS
GAINING ACCESS TO PLANTS IF THEY DID NOT ACQUIRE
PROPRIETARY INFORMATION IN DOING SO. HOWEVER, HE
RECOGNIZED THAT MITI AND THE JAPANESE INDUSTRY WOULD BE
THINKING MORE ABOUT THE U.S. INDUSTRY'S POTENTIALLY
NEGATIVE REACTION TO ANY EFFORT BY EPA TO IMPOSE
JAPANESE POLLUTION CONTROL TECHNOLOGY ON THE DOMESTIC
INDUSTRY, WITH CONSEQUENT CLAIMS THAT U.S. INDUSTRY WOULD
BE LESS COST-EFFECTIVE IN ITS COMPETITION FOR MARKETS WITH
JAPAN AS A RESULT. IN SUMMARY, YONEDA EXPRESSED
PESSIMISM THAT GOJ WOULD AGREE TO MAKE PRESENTATION AS
PROPOSED BY U.S. SIDE, PROBABLY CLAIMING THAT INSUFFICIENT
TIME HAD BEEN ALLOWED FOR GOJ COORDINATION AND PREPARATION.

7. CONCERNING U.S. PRESENTATIONS ON TOPICS TO BE SELECTED BY JAPAN, YONEDA SAID THAT A LIST OF FIVE OR SIX SUCH TOPICS ALREADY HAD BEEN ACCUMULATED. HE WAS NOT CERTAIN WHETHER LIST WOULD BE GIVEN TO U.S. FOR SELECTION OF TWO TOPICS OR WHETHER JAPANESE SIDE WOULD SELECT TWO FROM LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LIST. THIS WILL BECOME CLEAR AT TIME THAT FORMAL RESPONSE TO AGENDA IS SUBMITTED TO USG.

8. YONEDA WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO FURNISH RESPONSE BY AUGUST 15, BUT WE WOULD LIKE TO POINT OUT THAT THIS WEEK IS HEIGHT OF JAPANESE SUMMER VACATION SEASON (AUG. 12-13 IS O-BON WEEKEND) AND WE DOUBT THAT HE CAN PULL A CONSENSUS TOGETHER QUICKLY.

9. COMMENT: AS POINT OF STRATEGY RATHER THAN SUBSTANCE, WE SUGGEST THAT IRON AND STEEL AGENDA ITEM BE CHANGED SO THAT IT BECOMES PRESENTATION BY U.S. SIDE, WHEREUPON EPA WOULD EXPLAIN PROBLEMS OF EMISSION CONTROL IN U.S. STEEL INDUSTRY AND WOULD SOLICIT IDEAS FROM JAPANESE SIDE ON HOW LATTER COULD ASSIST. UNLESS SOME EXTRAORDINARY MEASURES ARE TAKEN BY MOFA AND MITI BEFORE CONFERENCE, WE DOUBT VERY MUCH THAT GOJ DELEGATION IS GOING TO BE PREPARED TO HOLD EXTENSIVE DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON ON MAKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR EPA ENGINEERS TO VISIT STEEL PLANTS HERE--FOR REASONS GIVEN IN PARA 6 ABOVE BUT ALSO BECAUSE GOJ ENVIRONMENT AGENCY IS NOT INVOLVED IN DIRECT REGULATION OF JAPANESE STEEL INDUSTRY AND HAS LITTLE CLOUT EITHER WITH MITI OR INDUSTRY. LIKewise, WE DO NOT SEE OUTSTANDING ADVANTAGES TO SENDING HIGH-LEVEL EPA DELEGATION TO JAPAN TO DISCUSS ACCESS TO STEEL PLANTS (PARA 5 REFTel B), SINCE LOGICAL COUNTERPART HERE IS GOJ ENVIRONMENT AGENCY. SUCH A VISIT, EVEN IF IT INCLUDED CALLS ON MITI AND JAPAN IRON AND STEEL FEDERATION, WOULD NOT HAVE HIGH PROBABILITY OF SUCCESS, IN OUR OPINION, AND WOULD HAVE CHANCE OF ONLY OBTAINING JAPANESE AGREEMENT TO STUDY PROBLEM FURTHER. HOWEVER, WE HAVE NOT YET HAD TIME TO RE-EXPLORE ENTIRE MATTER WITH EA, MITI, AND FEDERATION. AFTER DOING SO, WE WILL GIVE DEPT. AND EPA A MORE INFORMED VIEW.

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10. RE AGENDA FOR COMMITTEE MEETING, WE SUGGEST THAT OPENING CEREMONIES BE REARRANGED SLIGHTLY FOR PROTOCOL PURPOSES IN THAT MR. YAMADA BE GIVEN OPPORTUNITY TO

MAKE OPENING REMARKS BEFORE MRS. BLUM PROCEEDS WITH
APPROVAL OF AGENDA, INTRODUCTION OF DELEGATIONS (PLURAL),
AND APPOINTMENT OF DRAFTING COMMITTEE. BRIEF OPENING
REMARKS BY MRS. BLUM AND MR. YAMADA COULD BE PART OF WHAT
ARE NOW DESIGNATED "OPENING CEREMONIES," AFTER WHICH
AMB. PICKERING COULD SPEAK. END COMMENT. MANSFIELD

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 11 aug 1978
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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